



6th July 2016

## Summer Term Newsletter

Dear Parents,

As we are well and truly into the summer term (and nearing the end) I thought I would share some of the achievements of the children and the events that have taken place since the last newsletter.

- The Year 6 pupils had a fantastic time at the Isle of Wight last week. They took part in a whole range of activities and arrived home safely but tired. Thank you to Mr Kinnear, Mrs Jones and Mrs Walker who supervised the children on the trip.
- Year 6 pupils visited the London aquarium yesterday as part of their work on evolution and habitats.
- Willow class assembly was brilliant - particularly the bee song! So well done to our very youngest children for being so confident.
- Four Year 5 pupils took part in the Hall Mead borough maths quiz. They had a brilliant time and performed well on the day competing against other schools with teams mainly made up of Year 6 pupils so well done to our children.
- The Year 5/6 choir performed well at the Queens theatre in Hornchurch a couple of weeks ago. Unfortunately I wasn't able to attend due to the scheduled Governors' meeting that evening, but I have seen a recording of the event and like everyone else who did attend, I was really impressed by the children's performance - they should all be really proud of themselves.
- Reception held their annual mother and grandmother's mini beast hunts which I believed wasn't hampered by the awful weather. The children have still got some of the mini beasts in jars and are continuing to examine them!
- A writer's workshop was held with a visiting poet. This was enjoyed by a selection of Year 4 and 5 pupils who worked alongside pupils from other schools to create their own poems around the theme of under the sea. They wrote some super poems and enjoyed performing these to their peers.

- Year 6 pupils visited Taunton Hall in Harold Wood to take part in a workshop/competition run by the London Borough of Havering on Citizenship. One of our teams of pupils won the competition, answering questions about travelling safely alone, dangers of carrying knives and misuse of drugs etc so a very well done to these children. I have also received an email from the organisers who say how impressed they were at all the children's behaviour and their enthusiasm and how they generally conducted themselves at the event.
- Miss Austin organised an 'Empty Classroom' day for all of the children the week before last. The children got to experience lots of different outdoor activities linked to science such as the squashed tomato challenge which taught the children about fair trade and poor farming.
- The Year 3 children led our school debate really well last month. The children came up with lots of reasons for and against children having to sit the SATs and it was evident that the children in the school are enjoying talking to larger audiences and putting their views across, even our very youngest pupils.
- Year 6 pupils took part in an orienteering competition at Oglethorpe Primary School and were the overall winners of the event. The children haven't taken part in this competition before so they deserve a really big well done.
- Year 1 pupils have recently visited St Andrew's Church and learnt which contributed to their learning in class about the local area and churches.
- The Junior Travel Ambassadors visited the London Transport Museum with Mrs Walker and had a thoroughly enjoyable day.
- Earlier in the month, Year 5 pupils visited the Harry Potter studios as part of their literacy work around the Harry Potter texts. The children had an amazing time and the visit really brought their learning alive.
- Sanders pupils came in to work with the Year 1 pupils, which the children loved.
- Mrs Boardman spent a couple of days in Year 6 teaching the children about Shakespeare which I know they really enjoyed.
- Other trips and visits recently have included: Year 4 visit to Country Park and Y3 visit to the iMax cinema
- I have already sent out a separate communication about the Queen's Birthday Celebrations/Little Havens Hospice fun day and the huge support we received for this worthwhile cause.

### **This week...**

On Monday, we held the school's 'Good to be Different' day where the children learnt about acceptance and understanding of others and what makes us all special and unique.

The children are also be learning about different cultures this week with each class learning about a country of their choice. I understand that several parents will be coming into school to share their cultural traditions with the children so I thank these parents for their time.

I hope that you have now all had the opportunity to view the school's new Sensory garden. The next step is to install a bench at the end of the textured path in memory of Joni-Mai.

### **Future trips...**

As a school, we are really proud of the number of trips and visits that teachers organise for pupils and the way that these enrich the curriculum by extending the children's learning in the classroom, in a relevant and fun way, and bringing learning alive. Much organisation goes into these visits with teachers taking all precautions as appropriate when planning them. If additional adult support is needed, parents are asked if they are available to help out. Replies to these requests are usually on a first come first served basis and I know that although the number of adult helpers is usually limited, often teachers try to ensure that as many parents as possible get the opportunity to attend a trip as is possible over the course of the year. This parent help is very much appreciated.

However, over the past twelve months due to the present climate where there is a heightened risk of terrorist acts or other threats, some parents are anxious about their child going on school trips unaccompanied by them. The school requires parents' permission for children to attend trips and parents have every right to state that they do not wish their child to go. In these cases the child will be accommodated in another class for the day. If a child is absent on this day for reasons other than for sickness then this absence will be unauthorised.

In light of parents' concerns, the school will undertake its annual review of the trips policy with parents next term and consideration will be given as to whether or not the trips and visits that make up the school's extended curriculum is something that parents continue to be in favour of.

### **Sporting events:**

The girls' football team played really well in the Linda Galloway tournament at the end of May. Unfortunately, they didn't get through to the finals but they displayed great team spirit and were fantastic ambassadors for Scotts. I know that Mrs Knapp will now be looking for new recruits for next year's team.

All classes had fun doing Boxercise with Mrs Monk - the children loved it as I know that Mrs Monk did too.

The school's netball team played against Nelmes and Newtons in May. It was predominantly Year 5 players and they put in good, solid performances, which bodes well for next season.

Badminton taster sessions were arranged for all of the Juniors. There was excellent feedback from the instructor who said the pupils behaved impeccably. She also spotted some talented players amongst our ranks.

A big well done should go to the Year 5 and 6 members of the Sports Crew who organised, ran and scored an infant activity day. Despite the weather, all the infants had the chance to take part in mini activities against their peers and be part of the competition. Lots of was fun had by all.

Thank you also to the Sports Crew members who have run the Change 4 Life club for some of the infant pupils on a weekly basis since March. Particular mention must go to Millie Nicholson, Edi Zinelli and Jake Barley in Year 5 who have been there consistently every week, along with Mrs Taylor (Y2 teacher) overseeing it all. Without these keen sports enthusiasts and dedicated member of staff this club would not be able to run. Well done to the infants that have attended too - there has been lots of great feedback.

Sporting events this year have included:

Year groups/teams	Events	Result
Year 5 and 6	Hi 5 Netball	2nd place/out of 20 teams
Year 3 and 4	Dodgeball	1st place/out of 24 teams
Years 5 and 6	Tag rugby - school games	13th place/26 teams
Year 5 and 6	Tag Rugby - festival	9th place/18 teams
Year 5 and 6	Girls' football tournament	7th place/22 teams
Year 3	Cross country	Non competitive event
Years 5 and 6 girls	Cross country	9th place/out of 29 teams
Year 5 and 6 boys	Cross country at Pages Wood	14th place/out of 29 teams
Year 3 and 4	Primary Sports hall athletics	4th place/out of 20 teams
Year 5 and 6	Primary Sports hall athletics	8th place/out of 32 teams
Year 3-6	Boccia	11 <sup>th</sup> place/out of 14 teams
All years	Penathalon	Non-competitive event
Year 5 and 6	Quicksticks Hockey	14 <sup>th</sup> place/out of 25 teams
Year 2	Primary Sports hall athletics	15 <sup>th</sup> place/ out of 20
Year 5 and 6	Swimming Gala	10 <sup>th</sup> place/out of 21 teams
Year 5 and 6	Netball League	Quarter-finalists
Year 5 and 6	Boys Football League	Semi-finalists
Year 3 and 4	Tag Rugby	Shield winners/out of 26 teams
Year 3 and 4	Key Steps Gymnastics	2 <sup>nd</sup> place/10 teams
Year 5 and 6	Key Steps Gymnastics	3 <sup>rd</sup> place/ 10 teams
Year 3 and 4	Tennis	6 <sup>th</sup> place/out of 9 teams
Year 6	Orienteering	1 <sup>st</sup> place/ out of 8 teams
Year 5 and 6	Girls Cricket	10 <sup>th</sup> place/ out of 16 teams
Year 5 and 6	Quad Kids	Cancelled poor weather
Year 2	Football	3 <sup>rd</sup> place/ out of 6 teams
Reception, Year 1 and 2	Infant activity day run by the Sports Crew	Non-competitive event
Year 2	5-a-day penathalon	Results not published yet
Year 3-6	5-a-day penathalon	Results not published yet
Year 3 and 4	Quad Kids	6 <sup>th</sup> place/out of 34 teams 22 <sup>nd</sup> place/out of 34 teams
Year 3-5	Mini-Olympics	6th place!
Year 5	Run for fun	Non-competitive event

Year 2	Quad Kids	6th place out of 34!
Year 3 and 4	Cricket	Not taken place yet

## Sports Day

Just to remind pupils that trainers rather than plimsolls should be worn on sports day if possible. These are safer if the grass is wet/damp.

## FOSA

The new playground markings were done this week so thank you to FOSA for providing the funding for these.

The summer fayre was a huge success so a big thank you to Julie Wright and the rest of the FOSA team for organising such a good event. They worked extremely hard on the day and all went smoothly - even the sun came out! We have not received exactly how much was raised and will let you know as soon as this is available. Thank you too for all the parent and teachers helpers on the day too.

FOSA are holding a coffee morning at the school on Monday 11th July for those parents that can make it. All are welcome!

## Parking

The school has received several complaints from local residents who state that some parents are parking over their driveways and blocking the entrance to Mallinson Close, so please may I remind parents to be considerate of our neighbours. More importantly, children's safety is being put at risk by parents parking on the zigzag lines outside the school entrance. As a community, we all have a duty of care to the children at this school and so need to keep their safety in mind at all times.

Dates for the term:

Wednesday 6th July	-	Mixed cricket competition for team of Y3/4 pupils
Thursday 7th July	-	Play date for new reception children
Friday 8th July	-	Chestnut class assembly @ 9.15am
	-	Pupil reports out to parents
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Reception visit to Barleylands
	-	FoSA Coffee morning @ 9.15am
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Year 1 visit to Colchester Zoo
Wednesday 13th July	-	Parents evening/art exhibition 3.30pm - 6pm
Thursday 14th July	-	Infant sports morning 9.15am
	-	Junior sports afternoon 1.15pm
	-	Infant entertainer 4.14-5.30pm
	-	Junior disco 6-8pm
Friday 15th July	-	Reserve sports day
Monday 18th July	-	Children meet their new teacher - more details to follow
Tuesday 19th July	-	Y6 production @ 9:30am
Wednesday 20th July	-	Year 6 BBQ
Wednesday 20th July	-	LAST DAY OF TERM
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	-	INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	-	INSET DAY- SCHOOL CLOSED

# Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September Children return to school

